

PRESS RELEASE

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*“This long-awaited development is very welcome.
The partial abolition of mandatory trading obligations
will kick-start bilateral trading, allow PPAs to develop
and ultimately help competition and customers”*

Ludek Horn
Chair EFET Working Group South Eastern Europe

The partial abolition of mandatory trading obligations on OPCOM can kick-start competition in the Romanian power market and help customers

The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET)¹ warmly welcomes recent changes to the Romanian Energy Act which partially abolishes² the requirement to trade via the Romanian energy exchange (OPCOM). This long-awaited development³ can enable an Over the Counter (OTC) market to develop and create a possibility for market participants to strike Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) between themselves. These developments will enhance competition and ultimately benefit customers.

EFET has long sought to highlight the costs and inefficiencies of the mandatory trading obligation which we consider incompatible with European Law. This view was reinforced by decisions from the European Court of Justice⁴ and recent investigations by the European Commission following a complaint from EFET. EFET firmly believes that allowing firms to choose where they trade is the best way to promote high standards of service, to ensure innovation in product offerings and to allow competition and liquidity to develop.

For more information, contact: Press@efet.org

² For reasons of ensuring the liquidity of electricity markets, state-owned energy producers must trade at least 40% of their annual production on OPCOM

³ An obligation to sell via OPCOM was introduced in 2009

⁴ Case C-648/18 ANRE v Hidroelectrica

¹ The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET) promotes and facilitates European energy trading in open, transparent and liquid wholesale markets, unhindered by national borders or other undue obstacles. We build trust in power and gas markets across Europe, so that they may underpin a sustainable and secure energy supply and enable the transition to a carbon neutral economy. EFET currently represents more than 100 energy trading companies, active in over 27 European countries. For more information: www.efet.org